

10/552115

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**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

**Applicant(s):** Hiroki Hibino, et al.

**Examiner:** Unassigned

**Serial No:** To be assigned

**Art Unit:** Unassigned

**Filed:** Herewith

**Docket:** 19206

**For:** CULTURE TREATMENT  
APPARATUS AND  
AUTOMATIC CULTURE  
APPARATUS

**Dated:** October 4, 2005

Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

**INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT**

Sir:

In accordance with 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.97 and 1.98, it is requested that the following references, which are also listed on the attached Form PTO-1449, be made of record in the above-identified case.

1. Japanese Patent Application Publication No. 52-012982, dated January 31, 1977 (with an English-language Abstract), together with corresponding U.S. Patent No. 4,090,921, issued to Sawamura, et al., dated May 23, 1978;
2. Japanese Patent Application Publication No. 09-168333, dated June 30, 1997, together with an English-language Abstract;

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**CERTIFICATE OF MAILING BY "EXPRESS MAIL"**

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I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service "Express Mail Post Office to Addressee" service under 37 C.F.R. § 1.10 on the date indicated above and is addressed to the Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450.

Dated: October 4, 2005



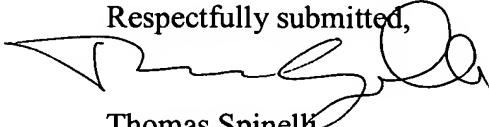
Thomas Spinelli

3. Japanese Patent Application Publication No. 2001-238663, dated September 4, 2001 (with an English-language Abstract), together with corresponding European Patent Application No. EP 1 266 960 A1, published December 18, 2002;
4. Japanese Patent Application Publication No. 2002-112762, dated April 16, 2002, together with an English-language Abstract;
5. Japanese Patent Application Publication No. 60-016587, dated January 28, 1985, together with an English-language Abstract; and
6. Japanese Patent Application Publication No. 2002-262856, dated September 17, 2002, together with an English-language Abstract.

The above-cited references were cited in an International Search Report dated June 29, 2004 received from the Japanese Patent Office. Reference 6 is also cited in the specification. Applicants are submitting copies of the above-cited references, together with a copy of the Search Report. The relevance of the above references has been described in the Search Report. The corresponding U.S. patent is not being submitted herewith, as copies of U.S. patents are no longer required per the waiver of 37 C.F.R. § 1.98(a)(2)(i) in effect as of June 30, 2003.

Inasmuch as this Information Disclosure Statement is being submitted in accordance with the schedule set out in 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(b), no statement or fee is required.

Respectfully submitted,



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			Applicant(s) Hiroki Hibino et al.			
			Filing Date Herewith		Group Art Unit Unassigned	

## U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS

*EXAMINER INITIAL	REF	DOCUMENT NUMBER	DATE	NAME	CLASS	SUBCLASS	FILING DATE IF APPROPRIATE
		4,090,921	5/23/1978	Sawamura, et al.			

## FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS

	REF	DOCUMENT NUMBER	DATE	COUNTRY	CLASS	SUBCLASS	TRANSLATION	
							YES	NO
		52-012982	1/31/1977	Japan				
		09-168333	6/30/1997	Japan				
		2001-238663	9/4/2001	Japan				
		EP 1 266 960 A1	12/18/2002	EPO				
		2002-112762	4/16/2002	Japan				
		60-016587	1/28/1985	Japan				
		2002-262856	9/17/2002	Japan				

## OTHER DOCUMENTS (Including Author, Title, Date, Pertinent Pages, Etc.)

EXAMINER	DATE CONSIDERED

EXAMINER: Initial if citation considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609; Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.